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P&G Case AA552MC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of :  
HIROSHI (NMN) FURUMICHI et al. : Confirmation No. 3411  
Serial No. 10/719,430 : Group Art Unit 3747  
Filed November 21, 2003 : Examiner

For TRIGGER MECHANISM FOR INITIATING A PHASE CHANGE IN A VARIABLE LIQUID ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, record is being made on the attached Form PTO/SB08 of documents which the Patent Office may wish to consider in connection with examination of the above-identified patent application. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case. As provided in §1.97(g), no representation is made or intended that a thorough art search was made. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission of any kind, and specifically is not an admission that the documents listed on attached form PTO/SB08 are, or are considered to be, material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

**37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) - (use when filing IDS more than 3 months after filing a nonprovisional patent application, but prior to receipt of first Office Action)**

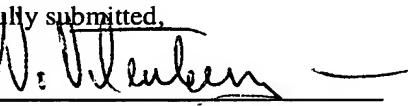
This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). Applicants have not received an Office Action on the merits in the present application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due. However, in the event that this paper is crossing in the mail with a first Office Action on the merits, authorization is hereby given to charge the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate of this letter (or a fee transmittal form) is enclosed to facilitate charging of the fee, if necessary.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE NOTED BY THE EXAMINER:**

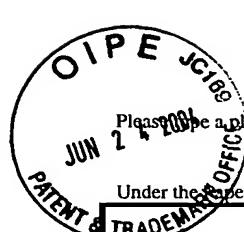
[X] (For use with applications filed after June 30, 2003.) In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), Applicants are submitting copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature.

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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Date: June 22, 2004  
**Customer No. 27752**  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

Application Number	10/719,430
Confirmation Number	3411
Filing Date	November 21, 2003
First Named Inventor	HIROSHI (NMN) FURUMICHI
Group Art Unit	3747
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	AA552MC

SHEET 1 of 1

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US-3,940,905	03-02-1976	Perry, 3rd	
	2	US-5,261,241	11-16-1993	Kitahara et al.	
	3	US-5,662,096	09-02-1997	Walters	
	4	US-5,792,213	08-11-1998	Bowen	
	5	US-5,819,932	10-13-1998	Spring et al.	
		US-			
		US-			

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	6	EP 0498428 A1	08-12-1992	Kitahara et al.		
	7	EP 0999149 A1	05-10-2000	Reggiani		
	8	FR 736,030	04-27-1932	Pollmann		
	9	FR 2348121	12-16-1977	Mincione		
	10	WO 9729965	08-21-1997	Spring et al.		

**EXAMINER** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE CONSIDERED** \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\*Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 37 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.